

Effortless English

Meddling Mother-In-Law

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WIFE READY TO WASH HER HANDS OF MEDDLING MOTHER-IN-LAW

DEAR ABBY:

How do I politely tell my mother-in-law to stop doing my **laundry**? It all started when I was **on bed rest due to** my pregnancy. I didn't mind her doing an occasional **load** to help us out. But now she does it anytime **she's over to** watch the kids.

I'm very **picky** about how I do my laundry, and this is the main reason I don't want her doing it. Also, I'd prefer she spend time playing with the kids than with the laundry!

She also puts things away in the wrong places. She does it with my dishes, too. Once I told her not to worry about my laundry because I wasn't done **sorting** it. She **took it upon herself** to do it anyway.

She's very **strong-willed**. My husband and I have had problems with her not respecting our **parenting**, too. She often **takes things the wrong way**. What's the best way for us to tell her that her help is not needed?

-- DIRTY FAMILY LAUNDRY